COCHIN
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION, 1116

Thursday, *the* $\frac{\textit{3rd April 1941}}{\textit{21st Meenam 1116}}$

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at Eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble the President, (SIR SHANMUKHAM CHETTY, K.C.I.E.), in the Chair.

Messrs. K. R. Viswambharan, K. M. Ibrahim, Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan, Ismail Hajee Essa Sait and H. J. Walmesley were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

KARSHAKA SAMAJAM, THOTTIPPAL—REQUEST FOR OPENING A THODU

326. Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether there was a petition to Government from the Karshaka Samajam, Thottippal, requesting for a *thodu* to convey water for the *puncha* fields;

(*b*) will Government be pleased to state whether any order was passed on that petition;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, will Government state the nature of the order;

(*d*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the negative, will Government be pleased to state why orders were not passed;

(*e*) have Government received any other petition from any other body for opening any other *thodu* in the very same vicinity;

(*f*) if the answer to (*e*) is in the affirmative, what is the order passed by Government on that petition;

(*g*) how many persons have signed the petition mentioned in (*e*);

(*h*) have Government enquired how many of them are agriculturists;

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(*i*) did the Hon'ble Minister go there and inspect the place ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) and (*c*) Yes. The order was that the opening of the *thodu* referred to in the petition has to be attended to by the ryots themselves.

(*d*) No answer is called for in view of answer to sub-divisions (*b*) and (*c*).

(*e*) to (*i*) There was no regular petition for this. But on a special request from some of the interested ryots, the Minister inspected the place. On personal inspection, the Minister was convinced that the *chal* had to be repaired at Government cost in the interests of agriculture, and accordingly the work has been sanctioned.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* May I know, Sir, whether this *thodu* also cannot be repaired at the expense of the ryots ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. But there are a number of *thodus.* These serve only a few acres of land. All that Government can do is to give some contribution to the ryots and they must also co-operate with Government. Otherwise, it will be very difficult to attend to these things. All the same, I say Government will do all that is possible.

327. Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura) :* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of times the Thottipal Karshaka Samajam requested Government for the opening of a drainage canal in the village during the last three years;

(*b*) are Government aware that the *puncha* fields in the village are seriously affected by floods every year;

(*c*) have any of the officers of Government made any reports regarding these floods during the last three years ;

(*d*) have Government any scheme to ward off these annual floods in future?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development) :*

(*a*) Once, *i.e.*, in Mithunam 1114.

(*b*) No. The *puncha* cultivation in the locality is not generally affected by floods.

(*c*) & (*d*) No.

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